

3-1-2006

Montana Kaimin, March 1, 2006

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MONTANA KAIMIN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006

VOLUME CVIII, ISSUE 70

Regents to discuss tuition increases

DANIEL PERSON
MONTANA KAIMIN

The Montana Board of Regents is meeting this week in Dillon for the board's second meeting of the year. As the governing body of the state's university system, this seven-member board is the main body guiding everything from tuition to teaching at the universities in Montana.

Here are some of the main issues the board will discuss this week:

A near 11 percent tuition increase may be in store for UM students in coming years, according to a report put out by the University of Montana. No final decisions will be reached this week.

Lagging enrollment has put UM \$1 million behind projections, and a plan developed to deal with the shortfalls proposes increasing tuition 5.5 percent in 2008 and 5.15 percent in 2009.

In dollars, that amounts to a \$600 increase per year in tuition over the two years.

Other campuses are issuing similar plans. UM Western, for example, reports it would need to increase tuition by 14 percent to meet budget needs.

Across the state, the universities are looking to raise tuition an average of 5 percent in 2008 and 2009.

Regents will vote on whether to initiate an independent audit of the Northern Rockies Center for Space Privatization. The NRCSP is a UM-affiliated group, which may have been operating without a required Board of Regents approval. (See related story, right)

The universities are not the only ones that are strapped for cash. The Office for the Commissioner of Higher Education owes the state \$600,000 after an audit found it inappropriately used state money. \$600,000 amounts to half of the office's budget, said Dave Gibson, an associate commissioner of higher education.

The debt came from an errant way in which the office was using state money.

Gibson said the Office of the Commissioner would ask the Board of Regents to help pay the \$600,000.

Pending a Regent vote, students may be able to receive bachelor's degrees in Media Arts, Accounting, Finance and many other areas of study in coming years. Currently, students can have an emphasis in the above subjects, but that confused some employers, according to Stanley Jenne, the chair of the Department of Accounting and Finance. There will be no changes to the curriculum of the programs, Jenne said.



Kevin Hoffman/Montana Kaimin

Sgt. 1st Class Teasdale runs drills with ROTC student recruits in the Schreiber gym Tuesday. These recruits either have previous military experience or will be active in the Army Reserve.

UM's ROTC ranked nationally

KERIANN LYNCH
MONTANA KAIMIN

The University of Montana ROTC program is ranked fifth of 272 programs nationwide, according to an unofficial ranking by the United States Army Cadet Command in Fort Monroe, Va.

"Since 1997, the average, overall University of Montana training program is ranked fifth in every category," Lt. Col. Eric Rydbom said. "They no longer do an official, published, overall ranking, but it's

something they put a lot of time into, so it's pretty accurate."

UM's ROTC training was evaluated based on physical conditioning, leadership, land navigation and tactical squad maneuvers. The Cadet Command also takes into account how many cadets are recruited and then retained and contracted through the program, Rydbom said.

"That ranking affects current cadets more than our recruiting efforts, because current cadets can hear that and be proud knowing they're in a program where they receive

great training that produces great cadets," Rydbom said.

The Military Science department at UM offers a traditional four-year commissioning program where students enroll in general training classes as freshmen and sophomores, before signing an Army contract if they wish to continue their third and fourth years of training.

"Anyone is welcome to take those classes during those first two training years,"

See ROTC, Page 4

UM space program's spending to be investigated

ZACHARY FRANZ
MONTANA KAIMIN

Embattled former University of Montana vice-president Lloyd Chesnut is back under scrutiny, and this time a current UM program is sharing a spot under the magnifying glass.

Montana's Legislative Audit Committee will investigate UM's Northern Rockies Center for Space Privatization, announced Scott Seacat, the Montana legislative auditor, in a letter to Board of Regents Commissioner Sheila Stearns on Monday.

UM established the center in 2003, but failed to secure the necessary Board of Regents approval. Chesnut, formerly a

vice president at UM, was a principal figure in founding the center. Chesnut left UM in 2003 to take a position at the University of North Texas. He resigned from that position last August after being escorted from his office for alleged financial impropriety.

After the allegations surfaced at UNT, the Board of Regents asked UM to investigate Chesnut's tenure at UM. UM President George Dennison formed a task force to conduct that investigation, and it found no evidence of wrongdoing.

In light of the new scandal, however, the Legislative Audit Committee will conduct its own examination of Chesnut's activities, Seacat said.

The connection between

Chesnut and the space privatization center involves a local nonprofit company that lists UM as a partner on its Web site. The company, Inland Northwest Space Alliance, was established with money from the center.

The space privatization center has paid out nearly \$1.5 million in salary and benefits to its employees, as well as \$400,000 for other expenses, the Missoulian reported. However, there seems to be little to show for the expenditures.

The center's report shows that they hosted "space camps" for kids, had some photo booths at fairs and performed some demonstrations at middle schools.

Part of the money was used to establish INSA, which, accord-

ing to its Web site, aims to create jobs for Montanans in the aerospace industry.

The president of INSA, George Bailey, once worked under Chesnut at UM. Later, Chesnut served as chairman of INSA's board of directors, for which he was paid \$15,000. In 2004, Chesnut's wife, Lucy, earned \$104,000 as the company's business manager, according to a Missoulian article.

The current relationship between the INSA and UM is unclear, except for the reference to UM as a partner on INSA's Web site.

The Board of Regents meets in Dillon this week and may recommend further action regarding the investigation at that time.

EDITORIAL

Ethics code comes close to free speech violation

Move over Jesus, the flock that is the faculty, staff and students of the University of Montana may have found a new moral shepherd, and his name is George Dennison.

With the campus-wide ethics code being developed by the UM president, it appears Dennison has grown tired of his role as UM’s administrative guide. Now he wants to be our moral guide, too.

The proposed code seeks to affect the way people at UM interact in four main areas.

First, it requires people to treat others with respect regardless of who they are or what they do. Second, it says people at UM have a responsibility to speak out against hatred and bigotry whenever they occur. Third, it prohibits harassment and belittlement. And fourth, it requires people to act against any potential compromises of individual or institutional integrity.

Pretty big deal, right? Dennison wants to tell us how to act and even speak. Sounds like a violation of the First Amendment.

But it isn’t. And the reason is that the proposal, should it be enacted, has no more weight than an ASUM resolution, which we all know isn’t much.

That’s right, the good Dennison can preach his word all he wants, but if he tries to enforce it he’ll run into some problems with a higher authority – the government. To place restrictions on the content of speech is a violation of the First Amendment.

So the issue raises a question: why have an ethics code if it won’t be enforced? How often, before belittling someone or failing to prevent compromises of integrity, will people actually stop and ask themselves, “What would George do?”

What makes the ethics code especially irksome is that it purports to speak for the faculty, staff and students of UM without our having an actual say in its enactment.

Sure, copies of the proposed code were sent to several organizations around campus, like the Faculty Senate and ASUM. But they don’t have any power to change or kill it if they don’t agree with what it says. At least in a religion, conversion is optional.

So here’s hoping the tower atop Main Hall stays a clock and not a church spire. And here’s hoping Dennison rediscovers his interest in administrative affairs and decides to butt out of our personal lives. There’s no reason for an ethics code that can’t be enforced and it’s too close to a free speech violation for comfort.

–Peter Bulger, news editor

GUEST COLUMN

Reading for fun often lost in bustle of college life

NICOLE ASMUSSEN

IOWA STATE DAILY

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa — College would be such a great learning environment if it weren’t for all the classes.

How many 3 a.m. philosophical debates have to be cut off because someone has to get up early for calculus? How many times have you left history after learning nothing except that the answer to 1-down has to be “epee” if 14-across starts with a “p”?

Even worse, how many great books collect dust on your “to read” pile because you can’t spare any time away from schoolwork?

For me, summer is the only time that I can actually pick up a novel with the hope of finishing it before I forget what the main character’s name is. I can devour a stack of books like a college student eats a box of pokey sticks. But when fall semester approaches, I’m not sure why I even bother to pack a crate of books and haul it from my car to my dorm room. It’s not like I’ll have time to read them.

Sadly, a university education does not even allow time for a voracious reader to enjoy the pastime, let alone offer significant incentives for a reluctant reader to pick up a book. Literature classes are for people with a sick obsession for writing papers. The library is a place to go if you want to check your e-mail or take a quick nap between classes.

I would venture to say that the average high school junior reads

more literature than the average college junior. Cliffs Notes were invented for college students, but you would sooner find a copy of the yellow-and-black-striped books inside a locker than a dorm room.

That students find no time to read for pleasure and no pleasure in reading is an unfortunate circumstance, but not one that should cause us to throw up our hands in despair and start whining about how kids these days are lazy and apathetic. MTV is to blame, or so the story goes, for causing an entire generation to only be able to consume 20 seconds of information at a time. iPods, text messaging and a host of other ADD-inducing technological innovations keep distracting us from the finer things in life.

Movies often get a bad rap for reducing several hundred pages of prose into a two-hour film, but more often than not they complement literature rather than compete with it. How many more people read “Pride and Prejudice” or “The Chronicles of Narnia” after they saw the movie? How many had heard of “Memoirs of a Geisha” or “Brokeback Mountain” before their box office success?

If technology is the culprit tearing you away from literature, it can also help to bring you back. Listening to books on CD is an excellent way to make the most of your driving time, especially if you commute frequently or if you have to drive through a radio sta-

tion-less desert like western Nebraska.

A word of warning (although I’m sure that this would never happen to anyone, so it is rather superfluous to even make this comment): Make sure your CD player is not set on shuffle because you will get really confused if characters who died keep coming back to life. Trust me.

The Internet also provides a wealth of literature at no cost. Project Gutenberg has a collection of more than 17,000 free books. If you have no idea what you want to read, Amazon.com has the eerie ability to read your mind and recommend books to you that you actually want to read.

If time is the main problem keeping you from reading, you just need some creative ways to multitask. Get some of your engineering friends to use their print subsidies to print you a hard copy of Leo Tolstoy’s “Anna Karenina.” Slip page one into a clear plastic sheet protector. Steam up the bathroom and stick it to the shower wall for easy reading while you shampoo. After only 632 showers, you’ll have read the entire novel.

If it’s class that is taking up your reading time, why not partake of both at once? Simply take digital pictures of the next chapter of the book you’re reading, upload them to your laptop and do a little reading during lecture.

After all, class should never get in the way of learning.

The Kaimin accepts letters to the editor and guest columns.

Letters should be 300 words or fewer, and columns should be about 700 words. Please e-mail both to letters@kaimin.org, or drop them off in Journalism 107.

Please include contact information.



the Grizzly chairlift when it derailed two weeks ago. I must say the situation was a lot scarier than one would think. We watched a chair in front of us hit a tower, almost swinging all the way over the top of the cable, causing the cable to be pried off of the shive train. Then the chairlift was not stopped, sending our chair bouncing over the tower with the cable off of the shives. I don’t mind the slow chair; it’s what makes Snowbowl Snowbowl. But I started to get angry when we were stuck on the chairlift for over two and a half hours. Luckily we knew what had happened, but those who did not see it happen had to

Snowbowl to blame for chairlift

I am writing in regards to the article about the Snowbowl chairlift. My friend and I were riding

wait until ski patrol finally got to their chair to evacuate them.

In the article, McKay states that part of the swinging chair is due to skiers and especially snowboarders. In this particular case, there were many empty chairs on either side of the chair that caused the derailment. Clearly, this problem was not caused by patrons of Snowbowl. It is unfortunate that the Snowbowl management can not take the blame for the trouble caused to all of the people on the chairlift at the time. Earlier on in the article he says the speed controls were giving him incorrect readings, which in my opinion, is the primary cause of this large mishap. There is no reason to blame the problem on those who are paying for the operation of the lift, especially snowboarders. I’m not concerned, paranoid or scared of the chairlift I just think Snowbowl needs to take responsibility for the event and not blame it on someone else.

–Kali Tholen, sophomore, business management

www.kaimin.org

MONTANA KAIMIN

The Montana Kaimin, in its 108th year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

Send letters to the editor to letters@kaimin.org or drop them off in Journalism 107

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Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Mineral springs

5 Milky Way maker

9 Pockmarks

14 Otherwise

15 Nastase of tennis

16 Invasion beach

17 Mournful cry

18 Singing star

19 Baseball groups

20 Stable compartments

22 Losers

24 Artist's workshop

26 Disdain

30 Take care of

31 Attention getter

35 Sort of seal

36 Advantage

37 Freeway filler

38 Abridged version

40 Iterate

42 Alum

43 Uncommon

47 Windowsill

48 Almost forever

49 First garden

50 Attire

51 Polliwog

53 Kitchen container

57 Familiarize with new surroundings

62 Camel cousin

63 Showdown time?

65 Pronounce indistinctly

66 Petal oil

67 Peace advocate

68 Dieter's word

69 Verses

70 At a great distance

71 Kind of chair
- DOWN
- 1 Bastes and hems

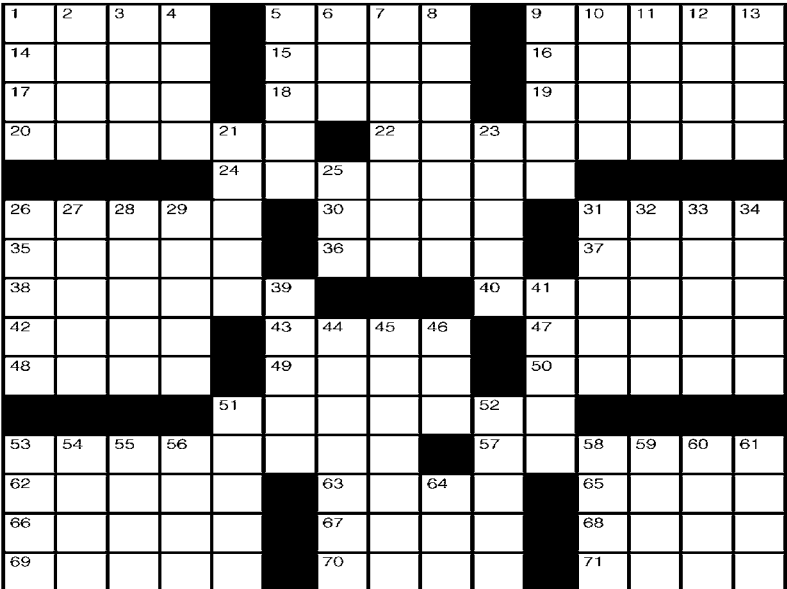
2 ___ du jour

3 Nepal's place

4 Put on the market

5 Center

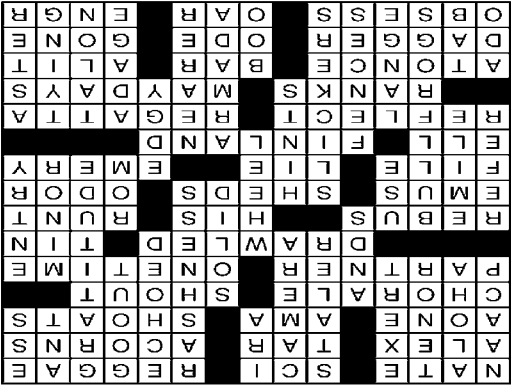
6 The Greatest



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- 7 Was the equal of
- 8 Making airtight
- 9 Giver
- 10 Middle Eastern leader
- 11 Zola novel
- 12 Afterward
- 13 Wise off
- 21 Comes down
- 23 Passover feast
- 25 Nice summer
- 26 Marsh grass
- 27 City on the Nile
- 28 Church instrument
- 29 Certain grasses
- 31 Rock, scissors,
- 32 "Blue ___ Shoes"
- 33 Males-only affairs
- 34 Schleps
- 39 Trick partner?
- 41 Church officer
- 44 Supplements
- 45 Admonishment
- 46 Rock composer
- 51 Russian royals
- 52 Recluse
- 53 Thunder sound
- 54 Lower voice
- 55 Archibald or Thurmond
- 56 Prayer leader of Islam
- 58 Wight or Skye
- 59 Charles Lamb
- 60 Rats!
- 61 Low card
- 64 Caesar's eggs

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March 1 through March 7

Event	Date	Time	Location
• International Brown Bag Series	Mar. 1	12-1pm	Mansfield Library
• Ecology Seminar Series Lecture	Mar. 1	4:10-5pm	N. Underground Lecture Hall
• Big Sky Career Fair	Mar. 1	9am-3pm	Univ. Center
• Misfits, Monsters and Pretty Things	Mar. 1-2	10am-4pm	UC Art Gallery
• Guest Artist Recital	Mar. 1	7:30pm	Music Recital Hall
• Dancing at Lughnasa	Mar. 1 Mar. 11	7:30pm	Masquer Theatre
• Student Recital Dawn Douglas, soprano	Mar. 2	7:30pm	Music Recital Hall
• UM Jazz Bands Concert	Mar. 3	7:30pm	Univ. Theatre
• Faculty Author Series Fools Paradise by Stewart Justman	Mar. 4	11am 12:30pm	The Bookstore
• Radical Reels Tour Banff	Mar. 4	7pm	Univ. Theatre
• Student Recital, Kristy Loveridge, flute	Mar. 4	7:30pm	Music Recital Hall
• Integrative Microbiology and Biochemistry Seminar Series	Mar. 6	4:10pm	Skaggs Building Room 117
• Walt Disney World Recruitment	Mar. 7	5-6pm	GBB 123
• Leading and Beyond	Mar. 7	5-8pm	FRC climbing wall
• The Jubileere and Chamber Chorale	Mar. 7	7:30pm	Music Recital Hall

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Interior Dept. playing 'hardball' with tribes, UM prof. says

LAUREL WALL-MACLANE

FOR THE KAIMIN

The Department of the Interior recently announced that a plan to cut American Indian programs is a "scare tactic" aimed at pitting American Indians against plaintiffs of a decade-long class-action lawsuit against the federal government, said Ray Cross, a professor of law at the University of Montana.

Elouise Cobell, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe, filed the suit in 1996 for lost royalties on lands that the Interior and Treasury Departments have been managing in trust for Indian landowners for more than 100 years.

A federal judge directed the Department of the Interior to pay plaintiffs \$7.1 million, mostly for unpaid lawyer's fees, which it plans to take out of existing Indian programs.

"This is hardball," Cross said. "You have to read between the lines to know what is really going on."

Among the funds to be cut are \$2 million from a fund for lawyers to provide legal work for tribal members and another \$2 million from funds to do a historical recounting of Indians' trust accounts.

Jim Cason, associate deputy interior secretary, said that the Interior Department was forced to take the funds out of various programs because the \$7.1 million was an unexpected expense, according to The Associated Press.

Nikki Ducheneaux of the Native American Law Student Association said that Indians lose out either way; programs are cut or the Cobell case takes a loss.

"It's called robbing Peter to pay Paul," Ducheneaux said.

Cobell, along with 500,000 mostly unnamed plaintiffs estimate that the government owes Indians \$100 billion in royalties for land-related assets such as oil, gas, agriculture and grazing. They are willing to settle for \$27.5 billion.

Neal DuBois, another member of NALSA, said he thinks if Indians could

afford to lose the money from other programs, it would be worth it in the long run to pay for the lawsuit.

"The question is, can we live without that money right now?" DuBois said.

The Interior Department is scraping for money because the federal government does not have the funds to pay for a suit like this, especially while re-constructing the Gulf Coast, continuing the war in Iraq and rebuilding Afghanistan, Cross said.

"The U.S. is in a huge fiscal hole right now," said Cross, who is also a tribal member of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nations in North Dakota.

The history behind the suit goes back to 1887 when the Allotment Act parceled off 80 to 160 acres of private property to tribal members. The government held the land in trust, working as what Cross calls the "largest real estate property manager in the world."

The allotted parcels of land have been fractioned off to the heirs of the property, so in three generations it is possible for 1,000

people to own part of the original property.

But the government did not have a system in place to record what was owed to whom.

"What's at issue is the trust responsibility. The federal government promised to take care of the land, and the money made off the land," Ducheneaux said.

Instead, records have been destroyed and computer systems have been taken off line, said Richard Sattler, a cultural anthropologist and professor at UM.

"The federal government has resisted, under both the Clinton and Bush administrations, efforts to change or reform the system — or even to recognize there is a problem," Sattler said.

In 2001, a federal judge ordered the Bureau of Indian Affairs' computers to be taken off line after a report was released finding the BIA's record keeping inaccurate and disorganized.

To this day, most of those systems are still not running, costing tribes untold amounts of money, Sattler said.

Cat becomes first non-bird in Europe to catch bird flu

MELISSA EDDY

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERLIN (AP) — The deadly strain of bird flu has been found in a cat in Germany, officials said Tuesday, the first time the virus has been identified in an animal other than a bird in central Europe.

Health officials urged cat owners to keep pets indoors after the dead cat was discovered over the weekend on the Baltic Sea island of Ruegen, where most of the more than 100 wild birds infected by the H5N1 strain have been found.

The cat is believed to have eaten an infected bird, said Thomas Mettenleiter, head of Germany's Friedrich Loeffler Institute. That is in keeping with a pattern of disease transmission seen in wild cats in Asia.

Mettenleiter insisted, however, there was no danger to humans as there have been no documented cases of a cat transmitting the

virus to people.

However, Maria Cheng of the World Health Organization in Geneva said there was not enough information on how the disease is transmitted to be sure. She noted that tigers and snow leopards in a zoo in Thailand became infected after being fed chicken carcasses, dying from H5N1 in 2003 and 2004.

"But we don't know what this means for humans. We don't know if they would play a role in transmitting the disease. We don't know how much virus the cats would excrete, how much people would need to be exposed to before they would fall ill," Cheng said.

In addition to the large cats infected in Thailand, three house cats near Bangkok were infected with the virus in February 2004. Officials said one cat ate a dead chicken on a farm where there was a bird flu outbreak, and the virus apparently spread to the others.

WHO said tests on three civets

that died in captivity last June in Vietnam also detected H5N1. The source of that infection was unknown.

Twenty-one people in Turkey tested positive for H5N1 in January and four of them, all children, died.

WHO on Monday raised its official tally of human bird flu cases worldwide to 173, including 93 deaths. Almost all human deaths from bird flu have been linked to contact with infected birds.

Health officials are concerned H5N1 could mutate into a form that is transmitted easily among humans, which could lead to a pandemic.

Cheng said the discovery of bird flu in a cat in Germany underscores that the deadly H5N1 strain can infect a wide range of mammals.

Scientists are particularly concerned about bird flu infecting pigs, because swine can also become infected with the human

flu virus. The fear is the two viruses could swap genetic material and create a new virus that could set off a human flu pandemic.

"We're particularly worried about pigs because they can have both human and bird flu at the same time and they can pass it on back to humans in a new form, which is essentially what happened in the last two pandemics" in 1957 and 1968, Cheng said.

Several other European nations registered cases of H5N1 on Tuesday. The worst outbreak was in Russia, where authorities confirmed the illness that devastated a poultry farm in the southern region of Krasnodar was bird flu.

More than 100,000 chickens at a farm in the village of Lavlinskaya have been killed to try to stem the spread of the disease, Gov. Alexander Tkachev said.

Some 30 countries - including the United States - partially or totally banned French poultry products after H5N1 was con-

firmed in commercial birds over the weekend. A group of veterinary chiefs meeting in Paris said Tuesday no country should consider itself safe from the deadly strain and that it is "highly likely" the disease will continue its spread in poultry stocks in Europe and beyond.

"The risk now is high for everybody," said Bernard Vallat, director of the Paris-based World Organization for Animal Health, which hosted the two-day meeting of experts from 50 countries.

Authorities in Sweden and Hungary also said they were conducting further tests to confirm whether wild birds that had tested positive for a form of bird flu were infected with the H5N1 strain.

Slovenia, as well as the southern German state of Bavaria, both registered new cases of H5N1 in wild fowl.

Associated Press writer Alexander G. Higgins contributed to this report from Geneva.

ROTC

Continued from Page 1

Rydbom said. "There is no military commitment until you commission to enter the third year."

Students in 100- and 200-level courses take classes for general

education credits that include discussion on military history, the constitutional role of the military, current defense tactics, the principles of leadership and organizational values. Physical training is not a required part of these courses, although all first- and second-

year students are welcome to join commissioned cadets in field training exercises.

There are currently 37 third- and fourth-year commissioned cadets in training either at the University of Montana or in its partnership program at Carroll

College. Another 25 students are enrolled in first- and second-year courses.

UM's ROTC has maintained a high level of training success because of a focus on academics and leadership preparation, Rydbom said.

"We definitely stress academics here," Rydbom said. "There's a strong emphasis that they're students first and then cadets, because if they don't get a bachelor's degree, the Army doesn't get a second lieutenant."

This past semester, ROTC awarded a total of \$7,750 in grade point average awards to cadets with GPAs above a 3.0, Rydbom said. The scholarships are used as an academic incentive, because the Army doesn't accept cadets as second lieutenants without a bachelor's degree and academic success ensures students are entered into their preferred branch of service.

"Last year all of our students

received a branch somewhere in their top three choices," Maj. Doug McCutcheon said. "That's a pretty remarkable number."

In the third and fourth year of the program, training focuses primarily on tactical operations and development of leadership skills. Fourth-year students are responsible for planning, executing and evaluating training operations for juniors as part of their leadership training, Rydbom said.

"Tonight, we'll be doing training up Pattee Canyon," senior Brian White said, as he prepared forms for the operation. "They'll get these coordinates and be expected to find them to get a code from every location."

The recent wars and conflicts overseas have not resulted in a decrease in enrollment, because students are still committed to service, Rydbom said.

"You have a pretty high level of patriotism generally speaking in a state like Montana," Rydbom said.

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MARDI GRAS MERRIMENT



Eleena Fikhman/Montana Kaimin
Junior Morgan Hanrahan dances on a countertop at Hammer Jacks in downtown Missoula Tuesday night. Hanrahan was competing for title of Miss Bacardi, but was beat out by another woman. Hammer Jacks was one of 10 bars participating in a Mardi Gras pub crawl.

Copyright debated on second day of 'DaVinci Code' trial

JILL LAWLESS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP) — Britain's High Court was plunged into the arcane world of Templars, Merovingians and characters such as Pepin the Fat as lawyers argued Tuesday over the genesis of the mega-selling thriller "The Da Vinci Code."

A lawyer for the novel's publisher said ideas about the life and legacy of Jesus Christ that two writers claim were stolen for Dan Brown's blockbuster are so general that they are not protected by

copyright, and that many key themes of their book are not in "The Da Vinci Code."

"We say that's fatal to their case," said John Baldwin, lawyer for publisher Random House.

Michael Baigent and Richard Leigh, authors of the 1982 nonfiction book "The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail," are suing Random House, Inc., claiming that parts of their work formed the basis of Brown's 2003 novel, which has sold more than 40 million copies and has been made into a film starring Tom Hanks.

They say that Brown "appropriated the architecture" of their

book, which explores theories that Jesus married Mary Magdalene, that the couple had a child and that the bloodline survives.

Random House, which also published "The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail," denies the claim.

If the writers succeed in securing an injunction to bar the use of their material, they could hold up the scheduled May 19 release of "The Da Vinci Code" movie, directed by Ron Howard. Sony Pictures said it planned to release the film on time.

Lawyers for the two claimants said Monday that the book's third author, Henry Lincoln, is not participating in the case, and asked the court not to infer anything from his absence.

Laying out his opening arguments, Baldwin said that the claim by Baigent and Leigh "relates to

and seeks to monopolize ideas at such a high level of generality that they are not protected by copyright."

"A lot of the points are in a lot of other sources," he said.

Brown, a resident of New Hampshire who rarely speaks to the media, is expected to testify next week; he sat silently in court on the second day of the trial. The case was later adjourned until next Tuesday so that the judge, Peter Smith, can read both books and related texts.

Brown's mystical thriller follows fictional professor Robert Langdon as he investigates the murder of an elderly member of an ancient society that guards dark secrets about the quest for the Holy Grail and the story of Jesus.

The book's mix of code-breaking, art history, religion and mysti-

cal lore has won millions of fans around the world, but has also endured plenty of controversy, including criticism from the Catholic church, ridicule from scholars and a previous copyright lawsuit that was decided in favor of Brown.

Baldwin said many important themes of "The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail" are not featured in "The Da Vinci Code," particularly the idea that a secretive order called the Priory of Sion, linked to the medieval Knights Templar, seeks to restore Jesus' descendants - the Merovingian dynasty - to the thrones of Europe. Among their enemies in the book is Pepin the Fat, a seventh-century official.

Similarly, the idea that Jesus' crucifixion was faked "is an important element of their book" that "forms no part of 'The Da Vinci Code.'"

In Brown's book, Jesus does not survive the crucifixion. Brown said Monday that questioning Christ's death and resurrection "undermines the very heart of Christian belief."

The claimants say they developed the idea that Jesus fathered a royal bloodline from medieval documents including the "Dossiers Secrets," found in France's national library in Paris.

The theme was taken up by the authors of many other books, including Brown.

Jonathan Rayner James, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, said Monday that his clients were not attempting to claim a monopoly on ideas or historical debate, but to prove Brown had "relied heavily" on the earlier work, published in Britain in 1982 and the following year in the United States.

Baldwin said Brown developed most of the central ideas of his book independently.

"He found the ideas that he wanted to use in his novel before either he or his wife had looked at 'The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail,'" Baldwin said.

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Exhibit touches on relationships, politics, history



An untitled piece by Patricia Thornton is on display in the UC Gallery with her "Misfits, Monsters and Pretty Things" collection. There will be a First Friday reception for the collection Friday at 5 p.m.

Kevin Hoffman/Montana Kaimin



Kevin Hoffman/Montana Kaimin

Patricia Thornton's "old Bag II" displays use of acrylic and graphite on an unexpected medium. Thornton graduated cum laude from Sonoma State University with a B.A. in art studio concentration.

DYLAN LASLOVICH

MONTANA KAIMIN

Misfits, Monsters and Pretty Things.

This might sound like a metal song but it's actually Patricia Thornton's art exhibit on display in room 227 of the University Center.

"Throughout my life I have collected a series of toys that I usually find in thrift stores or on the street that to me are beautiful but others might question why I would have these weird figures," said Thornton, a graduate non-degree student at the University of Montana. "It plays with the idea of 'what is a misfit,' 'what is beauty?'"

Her graphite and oil pastel series on paper explores "politics, history and interpersonal relationships," among other things that inspire her.

"It's also based on things I create from my imagination," Thornton said. "The figures you see come from me and popular culture."

Thornton, who has been inter-

ested in art from a young age, is excited for her work to be on display in the UC Gallery and looks forward to receiving feedback.

But what does her artwork offer to the audience?

"I think it is up to the viewer to take what they can from it," Thornton said. "I put out all my information and life experience into each piece and I hope they walk away with some of it."

In a written release, the UC Gallery praised Thornton's work

as creating "an innate sense of silliness, optimism, anger, confusion and guilt."

"Misfits, Monsters and Pretty Things" is on display until March 10.

This Friday at 4 p.m. Thornton will be at the gallery to talk about her work and from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. their will be opening reception.

The UC Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Play explores industrial era, religious faith

IAN GRAHAM

MONTANA KAIMIN

The University of Montana Department of Drama/Dance presents "Dancing at Lughnasa" (pronounced loo-NA-sa) tonight.

It's the story of the Mundy family, five Irish sisters and a child, dealing with growing pressure from the industrial culture of 1936. It's told from the perspective of Michael, the illegitimate son of Chris, one of the sisters. He narrates as a young man, reminiscing about his youth.

"They're a family with no working men," director Brad Poer said. "So they're on the brink of trouble as the outside world grows up around them."

Poer said that the play is really about how what we remember in our lives affects the people we become. He also said that sacrifice in the name of family is a strong theme throughout the play.

"It really shows all of the different roles we take in our families," he said. "The way we battle between what we want to do and having to follow the rules society puts on us is a big part of this family unit."

The family as a whole acts as protagonist, while the growing industrial society and the Catholic Church in Ireland act as antagonists. Throughout the story, Celtic pagan spirituality and Catholic

beliefs conflict. As growing industrialism absorbs rural culture, the Church abolishes pagan beliefs, and both threaten the small family.

Strong religious tension comes from Maggie and Kate, the strongest pagan and Catholic sisters, respectively. Kate is a schoolteacher, devout Catholic and firm believer in following rules. She is played by graduate student Nicki Poer. Maggie, played by graduate student Krisanne Markel, is the joker of the family. She tries to help her sisters by lightening heavy moods with a joke.

Maggie also acts as a playful, energetic mother figure to young Michael.

Having no children of her own to raise, Maggie fills in where she thinks her sister Chris is failing as a parent, Markel said.

"Maggie loves to be wild and play," Markel said. "She has this untamable wild side that she only gets to let free once or twice. She knows that you can't always live by the rules, sometimes you need to have fun and enjoy life."

However, she said, Maggie's wild pagan side often conflicts with Kate's strict Catholic beliefs. When Uncle Jack, a Catholic priest, returns from a 25-year mission to Uganda and has converted to a pagan Ugandan faith, it only furthers the intra-familial clash.

"Eventually, the divide between Catholicism and Celtic traditions, plus the industrial revolution in

Ireland, tears the family apart," Sarah Jo Wojciechowski-Prill said.

Wojciechowski-Prill, also a graduate student in drama, plays Rose, the "simple" sister. Like Lennie Small in "Of Mice and Men," Rose is an adult with an adolescent mind. Her slight retardation leads her into a lot of misadventures, which in turn cause her sisters to "freak out," as Wojciechowski-Prill put it.

"She falls in love with a bad guy," she said. "So her sisters try to protect her. If she had lived in a city, Rose would probably have been put in a home of some sort, so her family tries to keep her out of trouble."

The battles fought by the Mundy family are as real today as they were in the 1930s.

Michael's father, Gerry, amounts to little more than a bi-annual visitor that promises a lot and delivers little. Chris shoulders the guilt of raising a bastard son in

Catholic Ireland, while forcing herself to almost believe Gerry's charming lies. Agnes works all day, facing the tidal wave of factories looming over her knitting business. Maggie, Kate and Uncle Jack fight for what they believe, finding ultimately that none of them are entirely right.

Through Michael's eyes, the audience is shown the collapse of a struggling family, trying to eke out lives for each other while being eclipsed by expanding industry.

"Dancing at Lughnasa" is showing tonight through Saturday, and March 7 to 11 at the Masquer Theater, in the PAR/TV Building on campus. All shows start at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$11 for general admission, \$10 for students and seniors and \$5 for children five and under.

For ticket availability and more information, call the PAR/TV Box Office at (406) 243-4581.

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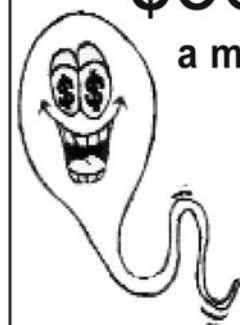
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America's athletic patriotism severely lacking



DANNY DAVIS
MONTANA KAIMIN

No matter how many Toby Keith cassettes you own or how many America bumper stickers you may have slapped on the back of your 1974 Chevy, there is no other way to cut it.

When it comes to sports,

America doesn't give a damn about America.

See, in America it's all about the pro club teams. Any random bum at the sports bar could probably tell you who the quarterback of the St. Louis Rams is but chances

are that drunkard has no idea who the hell the "The Flying Tomato" is (look it up). At least when we root for our Jacksonville Jaguars and New York Yankees, Americans always end up on top and we don't end up losing to those damned Canadians.

It's not like America didn't have reasons to cheer in the Olympics.

The good ol' U-S-of-A did win the second-largest number of medals at the games and the 25 medals won in Turin, or Torino, was the most the USA has won at any foreign Olympic competition.

The problem with our medal count is that those medals were either (a) won by athletes that nobody has ever heard of, or (b) not won by the athletes that were well known and well marketed.

Ice skating darling Michelle Kwan? Didn't even compete. Nike pitchman and controversial badass Bode Miller? Biggest choke job since Monica Lewinsky (or Latrell Sprewell, take your pick). The USA hockey team? Well, at least the Stanley Cup will probably be won by a team that resides in the Lower 48.

When the USA did medal it was either in an event that shouldn't be

considered an Olympic sport – seven medals in snowboarding – or won in embarrassing fashion – take for example Shani Davis' historic speed skating medal and the controversy that followed it, Sasha Cohen's tumble to a silver or the unfathomable wipeout that cost snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis a gold medal.

The sad thing is that this problem isn't just about the Olympics.

America's lack of enthusiasm about international competition is even more apparent when it comes to the biggest sport in the world: soccer.

If you knew that the USA opens up World Cup play in June against the Czech Republic, raise your hand. You, and about three kids, are probably the only ones currently sitting around in your Econ 101 class with your hand raised, looking quite foolish.

Most likely if you are like me or most other Americans, the only things you may know about soccer is that soccer legend Mia Hamm is married to Nomar and that Brandi Chastain performed perhaps one of the best goal celebrations ever.

Baseball will be the next sport to dive into the international realm

while nobody stateside cares. A handful of major leaguers have been preparing for the World Baseball Classic, a 16-country tournament that begins tomorrow.

Sounds like a good idea, but once again, does America even care?

Is SportsCenter chronicling the South African team with just four professional ball players on its roster or breaking down America's opening round game against Mexico?

Nope, instead all the baseball chatter you are going to hear is focused on Barry Bonds, the Yankees or what major leaguer isn't going to play in the WBC.

It seems like the only American entity that this country tends to care about are those adorable wannabe pop singers on American Idol.

So unless Ruben Studdard wants to strap on some ice skates or the USA wants to start Kelly Clarkson at second base, don't expect many Americans to care about the country's performances in international competition.

Toby Keith be damned.

Conference title races heat up in college basketball

ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) - Glen Davis scored 24 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lift No. 21 LSU to a 64-61 victory over South Carolina on Tuesday night, giving the Tigers at least a share of the Southeastern Conference title.

Davis, the SEC's leading scorer, was held to just six points in the opening half, but LSU (21-7, 13-2) pounded the ball inside in the second half to capture its first league title in six years.

The Gamecocks (14-14, 5-10) lost another close one, which has been typical of their season. Tarence Kinsey led South Carolina, which has lost four straight, with 21 points.

The Gamecocks had a chance late in the game trailing by two, but Kinsey was called for traveling. Tasmin Mitchell made a free throw with 26.3 seconds to go to

put LSU ahead 62-59.

South Carolina tried to find Kinsey for a 3-pointer on its next possession, but couldn't and Rocky Trice missed from beyond the arc. Brandon Wallace tipped in the rebound, but Davis made two free throws to seal the win.

Tre Kelley's desperation 3-pointer from midcourt at the buzzer was well short.

No. 12 Boston College 80, Wake Forest 65

BOSTON (AP) - Craig Smith had 23 points and eight rebounds and Jared Dudley scored 22 on Tuesday night to help Boston College clinch a bye for the first round of its first Atlantic Coast Conference tournament.

BC, which defected from the Big East over the summer, could improve its position even more on Saturday: A victory over Virginia

Tech in the regular-season finale could help the Eagles (23-6, 10-5 ACC) avoid top-ranked Duke until the conference championship game.

Trent Strickland scored 15 for Wake Forest (14-15, 2-13), which went 0-8 on the road in the conference. The Deamon Deacons clinched last place in the ACC with the loss.

No. 10 Illinois 71, Minnesota 65

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - James Augustine had 16 points, 10 rebounds and a career-high seven assists to lead Illinois over Minnesota and keep the Illini in the race for the Big Ten title.

Dee Brown scored 14 points and Rich McBride had 12 for Illinois (24-5, 10-5), which trails Ohio State by just a half game for the conference lead.

Vincent Grier scored 19 points

and Moe Hargrow added 17 in their final home game for the Golden Gophers (14-12, 5-10), who have lost 15 straight to Illinois dating back to 1999.

Spencer Tollackson and Adam Boone had 10 points each.

Illinois finishes the Big Ten regular season at Michigan State on Saturday.

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SADDAM HUSSEIN TRIAL IN IRAQ

Prosecutors show execution order they say was signed by Saddam

BASSEM MROUE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Prosecutors presented documents Tuesday they said show Saddam Hussein approved executions of more than 140 Shiites in the 1980s, the most direct evidence yet against the former Iraqi leader in his four-month trial. Among those sentenced to hang was an 11-year-old boy.

The most significant document featured a signature said to be Saddam's on a court list of people to be executed, though it was not clear he was aware of their ages. The list on that particular document only had names.

About 50 of those sentenced died during interrogation before they could go to the gallows. One man, his brother and two sons were executed by mistake, and Saddam allegedly ordered them declared "martyrs" to cover up the error.

When it was discovered that the 11-year-old and nine other juveniles were not executed but were still in prison years later, they were ordered killed and their bodies buried in secret - an order approved with a signature the prosecution said was that of the intelligence agency chief at the time, Barzan Ibrahim, who is Saddam's half brother and a co-defendant in the trial.

Saddam, Ibrahim and six other members of the former regime are on trial for torture, imprisonment and the killings of some 148 Shiites in a crackdown launched after a 1982 attempt to assassinate

the former Iraqi leader in the town of Dujail. They face death by hanging if convicted.

Tuesday's session was one of the most orderly since the trial began in October. The defense team gave up on a boycott of the tribunal it began last month and attended the session, though chief judge Raouf Abdel-Rahman rejected their demand that he and chief prosecutor Jaafar al-Moussawi step down.

Saddam and the other defendants entered the court and took their seats silently - in sharp contrast with nearly every other session, which began with Saddam and Ibrahim shouting slogans or arguing with the judge.

Saddam and several other defendants have ended a hunger strike he and some co-defendants started Feb. 12, two days before the last trial session, defense lawyer Khamis al-Obeidi said Sunday.

After the two-hour session, Abdel-Rahman adjourned until Wednesday.

The defense team's participation appeared to vindicate the tough approach Abdel-Rahman has taken since taking over the tribunal in late January, replacing a chief judge who had been criticized for allowing Saddam's outbursts. In contrast, Abdel-Rahman has thrown out defendants for shouting and has pushed ahead with the proceedings even when the lawyers - and, at times, the defendants themselves - refused to attend.

One member of the defense team, Salih al-Armouti, dismissed

the documents presented in court Tuesday.

"I am not casting doubt on them as much as I'm saying that I consider them to be void and useless. They cannot be proof of any action that puts legal responsibility on my client," he told Al-Arabiya television, though he would not elaborate.

In the first months of the trial, a

"None of the defendants were brought to court. Their statements were never recorded."

— Chief prosecutor
Jaafar al-Moussawi

series of Dujail residents testified that they were imprisoned and tortured following the assassination attempt and that their relatives were killed. Several women related how they were stripped naked, beaten or given electric shocks - one testifying that Ibrahim himself kicked her in the chest as she hung upside down.

But none could directly implicate Saddam in the crackdown. In the past three sessions, prosecutors have been presenting documents aimed at showing the former Iraqi leader was directly involved.

On Tuesday, chief prosecutor al-Moussawi displayed a series of

documents detailing the executions, though the numbers and chronology were often confusing.

One of the documents was a June 14, 1984 ruling by the Revolutionary Court sentencing to death 148 people from Dujail. A presidential decree issued two days later approved the death sentences, with a signature that prosecutors said was Saddam's.

The sentences were passed after an "imaginary trial," al-Moussawi told the court.

"None of the defendants were brought to court. Their statements were never recorded," he said.

Prosecutors also displayed a March 1985 document listing the names and ordering the executions to be carried out, signed allegedly by Ibrahim. A March 23, 1985 Revolutionary Court document confirmed the executions took place that day.

As it turned out, not all 148 had gone to the gallows. It was discovered that two people on the list were released by mistake, and the Mukhabarat intelligence agency launched an investigation in 1987 to find out what happened.

According to a report by the investigation, those implementing the execution order in 1984 discovered that some of those on the list had already been "liquidated during interrogations." The remaining 96 were executed as ordered.

But because of the "shortness of time," officials did not read the names on the list carefully, and four detainees who were not on the list and previously had been ordered released were executed by

mistake, according to the document. They were identified as a man named Mahdi Adel-Amir, two of his sons and his brother.

The report recommended that a Mukhabarat officer who accidentally failed to release the Abdel-Amirs be disciplined with a prison sentence. A handwritten note that the prosecution said was Saddam's signature approved the recommendation. A later document said he was sentenced to three years in prison.

The report also recommended that a decree be issued to declare the Abdel-Amirs "martyrs" and return to their families properties that were stripped from relatives of the Dujail suspects. A note by Saddam's secretary said Saddam approved that recommendation as well.

A later Mukhabarat document showed that 10 juveniles thought to have been among the 96 executed - aged 11 to 17 at the time of sentencing - had instead been sent to a desert prison outside the southern city of Samawah.

The memo recommended executing the 10 in secret. A handwritten note in the margin of the memo, signed with what the prosecution said was Ibrahim's signature, approved the secret execution and recommended that Mukhabarat agents bury the bodies "so that the (Baghdad) municipality not find out."

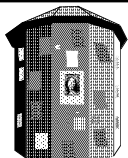
"If we can guarantee this is carried out properly, then there is no objection," the note said. They were executed in 1989, other documents showed.

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Diamond Dream wholesale and supply see ad in Friday's paper (406) 449-GOLD

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One credit HHP classes you can still add: HHP106: Total Body Conditioning: HHP195: 1st Aid & CPR: HHP154: Tennis: HHP147: Soccer: HHP138: Whitewater Rafting: HHP124: Folf. Contact Adrienne Corti, McG117, 243-4255, adrienne.corti@mso.umt.edu by March 6 for drop/add form signature.

HORSE INSTRUCTION

UM Horse & Rider Edu. T & T Horsemanship, 3/10-12 243-2905, www.umt.edu/ce/horseandrider

E-mail CLASSIFIED ADS To: classifieds@kaimin.org

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